Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

# Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MEXICO 01144 201903Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-14 L-03
NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02
DOE-11 INT-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 /126 W
----------085900 211108Z /13
R 201854Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7727

UNCLAS MEXICO 01144

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, UNEP, US, MX
SUBJECT: UNEP INTEREST IN FACILITATING US/MEXICAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

REF: STATE 9968

1. JORGE VELASCO OCAMPO IS DIRECTOR-IN-CHIEF FOR PLANNING AND TECHNICAL AFFAIRS AT FONSEC (SRE). (DIRECTORS-IN-CHIEF RANK NOS. 8 THROUGH 14 IN SRE HIERARCHY. VELASCO'S CHARTER INCLUDES, INTER ALIA, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.) S&T COUNSELOR DISCUSSED BILATERAL FOLLOW-UP ON DESERTIFICATION AND MARINE POLLUTION WITH VELASCO AND EDGARDO FLORES RIVAS OF HIS STAFF AS REQUESTED REFTEL.

2. DESERTIFICATION. FOLLOWING AN INITIAL POST-NAIROBI MEETING INVOLVING SOME 200 MEXICANS, GOM CREATED INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUP WHICH MEETS WEEKLY. IMPRESSION WE HAVE IS THAT INITIATIVE FOR THIS WAS LARGELY FROM SRE, AND VELASCO'S OFFICE IN PARTICULAR, ALTHOUGH THE COMISION NACIONAL DE ZONAS ARIDAS ALSO PLAYS LEADING ROLE, AND GROUP DEALS WITH DOMESTIC AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL DESERTI-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MEXICO 01144 201903Z

FICATION MATTERS. VELASCO AND FLORES MOST FAMILIAR WITH TUCSON AND NAIROBI DISCUSSIONS (FLORES ATTENDED BOTH MEETINGS.)

3. VELASCO IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT OVER DESIRABILITY OF A 2ND US-MEXICO BILATERAL MEETING ON DESERTIFICATION IN APPROX TIME FRAME SUGGESTED REFTEL. HE AGREES IT DESIRABLE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

TO HOLD IT IN MEXICO CITY AND WILL ADVISE RE SUGGESTED SPECIFIC DATES. MEETING WOULD BE DIRECT OUTGROWTH OF EARLIER MEETINGS AND WOULD INVOLVE SOME OF SAME PARTICIPANTS ON MEXICAN SIDE.

4. VELASCO WOULD PREFER THAT MEETING BE BASICALLY TECHNICAL, HOWEVER. HE ENVISIONS MEETING AS COMING UP WITH SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED FOR POLICY-LEVEL APPROVAL ON BOTH SIDES AT NEXT MEETING OF EITHER (A) SOCIAL WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED BY OUR TWO PRESIDENTS OR (B) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MIXED COMMISSION (JULY 1978?). (IN THIS CONNECTION, FLORES REMINDED US THAT COOPERATION IN ARID AND SEMI-ARID ZONE NATURAL RESOURCES WAS AGREED TO AT LAST MIXED COMMISSION MEETING.)

5. MEXICAN SIDE WILL PROBABLY HAVE 10-15 PEOPLE ATTENDING, IN VIEW OF WIDESPREAD INTEREST HERE AND MAKEUP OF INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE. IN ADDITION, VELASCO WOULD LIKE ONE "SEMINAR" SESSION, PERHAPS ON LAST AFTERNOON, AT WHICH SOME 50 OR 60 MORE PEOPLE COULD BE IN ATTENDANCE.

6. VELASCO WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE UNEP (SANCHEZ)'S ROLE IN HELPING ARRANGE THE MEETING. HE THUS WOULD HAVE SANCHEZ PARTICIPATE IN CEREMONY OPENING THE MEETING, BUT THEN WOULD ENVISION NO ROLE FOR UNEP IN WORKING SESSIONS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED



7. THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME DIFFERENCE STILL TO BE RESOLVED IN GOM ON WHETHER MARCH MEETING WILL CONSTITUTE A CONTINUING BILATERAL WORKING GROUP. RAMIREZ-ARAIZA OF CONACYT APPEARS TO FAVOR THIS (77 MEXICO 15154) WHILE SRE SEEMS OPPOSED. IN ANY CASE, THIS COULD BE DECIDED AT MARCH MEETING ITSELF, ASSUMING ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER WISHES TO PROPOSE IT.

8. VELASCO EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO PROPOSE SPECIFIC TOPICS FOR AGENDA IN A WEEK OR SO. HE WELCOMES SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR SIDE BEYOND THOSE IN REFTEL AS WELL.

9. MARINE POLLUTION. WE REFERRED TO NOW COMPLETED EXCHANGE OF EMERGENCY CONTACTS AND PROMISED TO PROVIDE DRAFT CONTINGENCY PLAN IN NEAR FUTURE. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THERE WAS NO POINT TO A MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT FOR THE TIME BEING.

10. COMMENT: DEPT WILL NOTE FROM ABOVE THAT VELASCO DOES SPEAK FOR GOM ON THESE MATTERS. WE EXPECT HIM TO PLAY A CONTINUING ROLE. MAJOR UNEP INVOLVEMENT APPARENTLY NOT DESIRED BY GOM EITHER, BUT MINOR INVOLVEMENT AS PER PARA 6

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

IS EXPECTED. LUCEY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, SOIL CONSERVATION
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 20 jan 1978
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** n/a
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:**
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1978MEXICO01144
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** N/A
**Errors:** N/A
**Expiration:**
**Film Number:** D780032-0826
**Format:** TEL
**From:** MEXICO
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780140/aaaabhwl.tel
**Line Count:** 117
**Litigation Code IDs:**
**Litigation Codes:**
**Litigation History:**
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Message ID:** 2e20c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Office:** ACTION OES
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 3
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** n/a
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** 78 STATE 9968
**Retention:** 0
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 08 mar 2005
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**SAS ID:** 3741372
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** UNEP INTEREST IN FACILITATING US/MEXICAN ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION
**TAGS:** SENV, US, MX, UNEP, (VELASCO OCAMPO, JORGE)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2e20c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Review Markings:**
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014